

not concepts for me either. My older sister and younger brother, both just children, were killed in that war. I will never forget them. I will never forget how my mother tried so hard to keep them alive. With the war raging all around us, there were no doctors, and we couldn't afford to buy medicine. All my mother could do was stay up all night and pray to God. Many Koreans still live with such pain.

I recognize the reality that Korea has been split in two, but I will never accept it as a permanent condition. The two Koreas share the same language, history, and customs. We are one people. In both Koreas, there are families who have never spoken to their loved ones for more than half a century. And my hope is that these people and all 70 million Koreans will enjoy real happiness and real peace. And for this, we must first lay the foundation for peace on the Korean Peninsula. And upon this foundation, we must strengthen cooperation between the two Koreas. We must seek the path that will lead us towards mutual prosperity. And we must achieve peaceful unification.

A unified Korea will be a friend to all and a threat to none. A unified Korea will contribute to peace and prosperity, not only in northeast Asia, but far beyond. We therefore must achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and North Korea must give up their nuclear ambitions.

Korea and the United States stand united. We are in full agreement that the Six Party Talks is an effective way to achieve tangible progress. We are in full agreement that we must also pursue dialogue with North Korea. However, we must also maintain our principled approach. A North Korea policy that is firmly rooted upon such principles is the key that will allow us to ultimately and fundamentally resolve this issue.

North Korea's development is in our collective interest, and this is what we want. However, this depends on its willingness to end all provocations and make genuine peace. We will work with you and the international community so that North Korea makes the right choice.

Our Mutual Defense Treaty has ensured stability and prosperity to flourish not only on the Korean Peninsula, but across northeast Asia. Northeast Asia today is a more dynamic region than ever. And economic change in this region brings geopolitical change, and it brings shifts in the balance of power that has long prevailed.

The United States, as a key player of the Asia-Pacific region and as a global leader, has vital interests in northeast Asia. For northeast Asia to play a more constructive role in global affairs, there must be peace and stability in the region.

And your leadership that has ensured peace and stability of northeast Asia and beyond in the 20th century must remain supreme in the 21st century. The ideals that you represent and the

leadership that allows for such ideals to become true must continue.

There remain many challenges in the world today, and your leadership is vital. Terrorism, proliferation of WMD, climate change, energy, poverty, and disease; these are just a few of the challenges that require your leadership.

Our free trade agreement has significance because it will be a force for stability, because lasting stability, again, depends on economic opportunity being open and robust. Our relationship can be the catalyst that generates growth and stability all along the Pacific Rim. And, in doing so, it will make clear how fully our fates are connected.

More than ever, Korea is looking beyond the horizon. It will willingly embrace its international responsibilities. It will work to resolve global challenges.

Since becoming President of Korea, my vision for Korea in the coming decades is for a global Korea.

Global Korea has joined United Nations peacekeeping operations in East Timor, Lebanon, and Haiti. Korea was the third-largest contributor of troops to the coalition forces in Iraq. We have sent reconstruction teams to rebuild Afghanistan. Our naval vessels support the United States and EU in fighting against piracy off the coast of Somalia.

We will take part in the international effort in bringing democracy to Libya and rebuilding its shattered economy. And we have pledged to double our overseas development assistance by 2015. And next month the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness will be held in Busan, Korea's second-largest city.

In these and countless other ways, Korea will carry out its duties as a responsible member of the international community. As we face the many global challenges that lie ahead, we will promote universal values.

In 2009, when President Obama and I signed the Joint Vision for the Future of the Alliance, we agreed to work closely together in resolving regional and international issues, based on shared values and mutual trust. And during our summit today we renewed this commitment. We also reaffirmed our commitment to face the challenges of today for the generation of tomorrow.

Our alliance will grow, and it will continue to evolve. And it will prevail.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, distinguished Members of Congress, before I part, I want to thank you again for the honor of addressing this Congress. I would also like to thank President Obama and Mrs. Obama for their invitation.

I also take this opportunity to pay tribute to the 1.5 million Korean-Americans who have been contributing to this great country. As President of Korea, I am proud that they are giving back to the country that gave them so much. I am also deeply grateful to you and the American people for giving

them the chance to make their dreams come true.

Your ideals and aspirations have been ours, as they have been for much of the world.

Half a century ago, young Americans served in the Korean War "for duty beyond the seas." And today, our peoples hear the same call. It may not always be active combat, not always to brave the rugged mountains or bitter winters, but it is an important duty nonetheless, a charge to help create a more peaceful, more prosperous world.

In the 21st century, duty and destiny calls us once again. As before, let us rise to meet these challenges. Let us go together. Together and forward.

Thank you.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

At 4 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m., His Excellency Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The Members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

#### JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 4 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. ROBY) at 5 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.

#### PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

#### PROTECT LIFE ACT

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 358 and to insert extraneous material on the bill.